

**TOWN OF CHATHAM REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Town of Chatham, Town Board was held on Sept. 17, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the town hall. Present were: Supervisor – Jesse DeGroot, Councilman – Beth Ann Rippel, Councilman – Bob Balcom, Councilman – Don Hegeman, Councilman – Jean Rohde, Town Clerk – Carol Gregg, Town Attorney – Tal Rappleyea, Comptroller – Earl Kelsey, Highway Supt. – Joe Rickert and several others.

The meeting was opened by Supervisor DeGroot and the pledge was led by Councilman Hegeman.

A Public Hearing on the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan was opened at 7:02 pm. Mary Gail Biebel explained what the plan means. Hearing was closed at 7:05 pm.

REPORTS

HIGHWAY Joe Rickert gave an oral report about the possibility of abandoning a portion of Silvernail Rd. which was damaged during the July 29th rain storm. Written report is on file.

RECREATION is on file.

COUNTY BUSINESS Jesse reported that the County is looking into a 5 year plan for technology for data processing.

RES. #86-09 to extend E.A.F. from September 3rd meeting.

Councilman Rohde offered Res. #86 and moved its adoption to extend E.A.F. from September 3rd meeting and to apply it to the Chatham Agricultural Plan. Councilman Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #87-09 to adopt the Town of Chatham Agricultural protection plan.

Supervisor DeGroot offered Res. #87 and moved its adoption that

WHEREAS, an Agricultural Protection Plan was developed under NYS Agriculture and Markets Circular 1500 Article 25-AAA, Section 324-a; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Town of Chatham Comprehensive Plan establishes agriculture as a critical land use to be protected and enhanced in the Town of Chatham; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chatham Comprehensive Plan recommended completion and implementation of strategies designed to protect and enhance agriculture in the Town; and

WHEREAS, a properly crafted strategic plan assists with the protection of the Towns agricultural resources and promotes farming activities as called for in the Town of Chatham Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Chatham tasked the Chatham Agricultural Partnership as a duly appointed committee with membership representing major farming sectors in the town, a Town Board member, a representative from the local agri-business community, a representative from the Columbia Land Conservancy, a realtor, and the Keep Farming coordinator to study agriculture and land uses that impact agriculture in the Town, collect data and prepare a draft protection plan; and

WHEREAS, the town utilized a planning consultant to assist in data collection, mapping, map analysis, and technical help to develop the plan; and

WHEREAS, the town engaged in an extensive effort to solicit public and farmer input into both the comprehensive planning process over a multi-year period that continued during development of the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, one public hearing was held by Chatham Agricultural Partnership to solicit input from the community as per NYS Agriculture and Markets Circular 1500 Article 25-AAA; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the draft Agricultural Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, Circular 1500, Article 25-AAA does not require procedures as per the State Environmental Quality Review Act (ECL Article 8 and 6 NYCRR Part 617) for approval of this plan;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS BY THE TOWN
BOARD OF CHATHAM, COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK:

THAT THE town board of the Town of Chatham hereby approves the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town Board of the Town of Chatham shall forward the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan immediately for review and approval by the Columbia County Farmland Protection Board as per Circular 1500 Article 25-AAA, Section 324-a; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town Board of the Town of Chatham shall forward the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Board to the New York State Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets for final State approval as per Circular 1500 Article 25-AAA, Section 324-a; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town Board of the Town of Chatham shall incorporate, with 12 months, the Town of Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan as a formally adopted addenda to the Town of Chatham Comprehensive Plan through procedures pursuant to NYS Town Law 272-a and that which will include a duly noticed public hearing, County 239-m review and approval, SEQR as per 6 NYCRR Part 617, and adoption by a resolution of said Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Balcom.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

ZBA member interviews will be held at 6:30pm on Oct. 15, 2009.

A **SPECIAL MEETING** will be held on October 2, 2009 at 8:00 am.

RES. #88-09 to sign contract for computer maintenance.

Councilman Rohde offered Res. #88 and moved its adoption to sign contract for computer maintenance with Zachary DeGroot from October 5, 2009 to April 1, 2010 in accordance with the bid. Contract is on file. Councilman Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #89-09 to renew BANS note.

Councilman Rohde offered Res. #89 and moved its adoption that

WHEREAS the Crellin Park Land Donation BAN for \$200,000.00 plus interest of \$7360.00 is due September 20, 2009 and

WHEREAS the General Fund budget planned for a principal payment of \$50,000.00 plus interest and

WHEREAS the General Fund does not have sufficient Unreserved Fund Balance Unappropriate available to pay off the remaining \$150,000.00 due on the BAN.

THERE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town board authorizes the Town Supervisor to renew the Crellin Park Land Donation BAN for \$150,000.00 @ 2.38% interest for one year. Councilman Balcom seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #90-09 to amend Budget Appropriations.

Councilman Rippel offered Res. #90 and moved its adoption to authorize the Town Comptroller to make the following amendments to budget appropriations:

From A1990.4 to A5010.4 - \$1,000.00. Councilman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #91-09 to transfer funds.

Councilman Rohde offered Res. #91 and moved its adoption to authorize the Town comptroller to make the following transfer of funds, subject to permissive referendum; From A889.31 (Office Automation Reserve) to H878.31 (Office Automation Reserve) - \$5,000.00. Councilman Rippel seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #92-09 to approve minutes.

Councilman Hegeman offered Res. #92 and moved its adoption to approve Aug. 20th, Sept. 3rd, and Sept. 14th Town Board Minutes with corrections. Councilman Rohde seconded the motion.

Vote; ayes, DeGroot, Balcom, Hegeman, Rohde, Rippel

Nays, none and resolution was adopted.

RES. #93-09 to proceed with legal action against Juanita Sayres.

Councilman Rippel offered Res. #93 and moved its adoption to proceed with legal action against Juanita Sayres of 4217 State Route 203 concerning Building and Zoning issues. Councilman Rohde seconded the motion.

Motion was made by Councilman Balcom, seconded by Councilman Hegeman and carried to adjourn at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol Gregg RMC, Town Clerk

